ATHERSTONE

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

AS TO

Vital Statistics,

FOR 1918.

HENRY R. FISHER,
M.O.H.

E. S. Colman, Printer, Atherstone.

INFLUENZA.

The Country at large has been swept during 1918 by two waves of Influenza. The first was in the summer. Very large numbers of people were affected : the illness was not of a severe type. There were five deaths in our district from pneumonia or broncho-pneumonia due to influenza. The second wave was in the autumn and early winter. Again large numbers of people were affected and a large number of deaths from pneumonia occurred. In our district there were 63 deaths which were indirectly due to influenza. This does not mean there were 63 deaths more than in an average year, as apart altogether from this epidemic, there are always a number of deaths from pneumonia and broncho-pneumonia in the autumn and winter ; but the increase in deaths due to the influenza epidemic accounts for the increase in the year's death rate from 11·4 to 12·6.

As regards the 63 deaths in our district, they were distributed as follows :—

	Under 10 years of age.	10 to 25 yrs.	25 to 45 yrs.	Overs 45 yrs.	Total.
Males	9	6	7	3	25
Females	8	9	12	9	38

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

At the beginning of 1918 there were 10 patients in the Hospital. Five of these were Scarlet Fever cases from our own district, the other five were Scarlet Fever cases from the Tamworth district.

During the year 11 Scarlet Fever cases and 4 Diphtheria cases were admitted from the Atherstone district.

Ten Scarlet Fever cases and 7 Diphtheria cases were received from Tamworth. A total of 42 cases were treated in the Hospital during the year, of which 36 were discharged cured, and six remained in Hospital on December 31st.

There were no deaths.

There were no patients in Hospital during the month of September.

The Hospital is in good order and the staff does its work efficiently.

I am,

Yours truly,

HENRY R. FISHER.

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ANNUAL REPORT.

ATHERSTONE,

March 4th, 1919.

To the RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

The following is a summary of the vital statistics of the district.

The Atherstone Rural District consists of eleven parishes, and the population is estimated at the same figure as last year, namely 20,700.

	Total Number.		Rate per 1000 population.
BIRTHS	512	=	24·7
DEATHS registered 254, deduct strangers dying in this district 4, and add local people who died out of the district 12	262	=	12·6
NUMBER OF INFANTS dying before the age of one year	26	=	Death Rate per 1000 births 50·7

The deaths include 35 over the age of 75 years and 12 who died sudden or violent deaths requiring an inquest.

The death rate is rather higher than for the years 1917 and 1916. This is accounted for by the extra deaths from Pneumonia during the Influenza epidemic last autumn, but even so, the death rate is not a high one.

The Infant mortality shows a still further improvement even on last year's good figures, and this improvement will be an encouragement to those workers who have been giving their time and services at the Infant Welfare Centres in Atherstone and Dordon.

At the Atherstone Centre there have been 988 attendances of mothers, and 1,263 of children. Miss Chorlton, several ladies of the committee and Nurse Udall attend every week, and the Medical Officer attends every other week. The number of visits paid to infants, school children, tuberculous persons and midwives by the Health Visitor during 1918, was 996.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED.

Scarlet Fever	22
Diphtheria	14
Measles	123
Erysipelas	12
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1
Ophthalmea Neonaldium ...	5
Tuberculosis	51
TOTAL ...	228

There is again a large increase in the notifications of Tuberculous disease. This may in part be due to the fact that practitioners do not omit to notify cases now, as was the case when the Act first came into force.

There is, however, a large amount of Tuberculosis in the district. It is deplorable that there is no machinery to effect the compulsory isolation of advanced cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. One such case when it occurs in suitable environment, inevitably infects many other persons.